श्री शिव प्रसाद चनधुरिया : मैं गृह मंत्री जी को स्वतंत्रता संग्राम सेनानियों की तरफ से बहुत बहुत मुबारकबाद देता हूं ।

SPECIAL MENTION—Contd.

Reported Agitation by Porgramme Staff for autonomy for Doordarshan

PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): I rise to bring before the House through you an issue which concerns the programme staff of Doordarshan. Earlier either some allegation or some applause was raised regarding the TV. We know not only in news, entertainment, education and other matters, the TV, during this comparatively short duration, has come to play an important part in the national life. In this role the programme staff of Doordarshan should in no way be under-estimated. Currently they are in the midst of an agitation on demands which are not centering round their salaries and emoluments, but on the basis of certain principles. They are conducting an agitation demanding autonomy for Doordarshan, the electronic media. This is a subject to which lip—service is paid by everybody. But in effect when the question of following it up comes the powers, that be, are found very often to be remiss. Then they insist that nowhere in the world the TV and the Radio, broadcasting and telecasting, are merged together ; ideally organisationally. This is a very unsound principle and leads to the stunted growth perhaps of both, at least of the TV, particularly at a time when Star TV, CNN and others have made their appearance on our media horizon. It is all he more important that our TV, Doordarshan, functions more professionally and is able to cater to the democratic and secular ideals of the country. With that end in view they say that that professionalism won't be possible if Radio and TV are interwined. As a matter of fact, the Government of India on three occasions, separate occasions beginning from 1992, passed Government orders in favour of bifurcation of TV and Radio. But it has not been done. They contemplate that unless they have some favourable response to their demands from the side of the Government they will take their agitation which is on a very low pitch till now, to a higher place. My appeal to the Government would be that they should respond to the agitationists, Doordarshan Programme staff, whose demands are really a demand for the sound management and sound functioning of the TV. I hope there would be positive response from the side of the Government without loss of time so that the functioning of the TV is in no way distorted.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman kindly ask the Government as to when they are going to make a statement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): What is your point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): I have been waiting here since morning. I have no problem.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): Mr. Reddy, what is your point?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, a point was raised yesterday in regard to Mr. Win Chadha. That affair is known to the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): She is here. If she wants, she can react. I have no objection.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Mr. Vice-hairman, Sir, he has repeatedly said that the Minister should clarify on the Win Chadha affair. That sounds a little odd.

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू (बिहार) : स्पेशल मेंशन को पूरा कर दिया जाए ।

श्री शिवप्रसाद चनपुरिया (मध्य प्रदेश) : मैं यह कहता हूं कि आपके स्पेशल मेंशन चालू है, इन को बीच में काटकर नया सब्जेक्ट न शुरू किया जाए ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) आपकी व्यवस्था ठीक है अपनी जगह पर, मैं उसे गलत नहीं कह रहा हूं । लेकिन ऐसा है कि मैं जहां बैठा हूं तो चेयर की भी कोई जवाबदेही होती है कि कभी कभी अव्यवस्था को व्यवस्था में परिवर्तित करे और कभी व्यवस्था में भी अपनी बात रखे । तो इन्होंने तीन चार बार रखा । चूंकि अभी सदन के नेता मौजूद हैं और मंत्री महोदया भी मौजूद हैं इसलिए मैंने उचित समझा कि इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर यदि वे कुछ कहना चाहती हैं तो उनकी बात सुन ली जाए ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन, कल वादा किया गया था हाउस में कि सदन के एडजर्न होने से पहले बताएंगे ।

Clarifications by the Minister—Re. Warrant of Arrest against Win Chadha

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Sir, yeserday a number of Members had raised in this House certain issues arising out of the Press report in a local daily. The hon. Home Minister and Leader of the House had promised that I would come and clarify some of these issues which had been raised, I hope, to the satisfaction of the Members. Therefore, I am before the House just to clarify some of those points which have been raised. A news item has appeared in the Indian Express dated 19th August, 1992 under the title "Chadha granted Swiss stay permit". It is alleged that the Swiss Government has received a message from Interpol that the Indian Government is no longer pursuing Win Chadha and that the international search and arrest warrant against him has been revoked.

An intimation was received on 5th May, 1992 from the Indian Ambassador in Switzerland to the effect that Win Chadha has been granted a permit to stay in Appenzel (Innerraden) Canton of Switzerland. It was also reported that Win Chadha had represented to the Swiss Government that he should be given an identity document which may enable him to travel abroad. On receipt of this communication, the Director, CBI, wrote to the Indian Ambassador in Switzerland explaining that Win Chadha, who is an accused in this case, is required for the purpose of interrogation and investigation in the Bofors case and that if his request for issue of an identity card is acceded to by the Swiss Government, it may create difficulty for securing his presence in the Court to face trial in India. It was also explained that Win Chadha had used his revoked passport for travelling to Switzerland which he was not authorised to do. I would like to point out that it is not from India that he travelled but he was in the Middle-East from where he travelled on a passport which we had revoked in India. The Indian Ambassador was requesed to bring all these facts concerning Win Chadha's requirement in India to the notice of the concerned Swiss authorities through a note-verable. On 21st May, 1992, the Indian Ambassador sent a *note-verbale* to the Federal Department of Justice and Police (1) for their consideration. It is not correct to say that any message or indication has been given to the Interpol authorities that the Indian Government is not interested in pursuing Win Chadha's case. A red-corner notice was issued by the Interpol Headquarters in April, 1990 on the basis of a non-bailable war-